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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q67940

Masaki KURIHARA, et al.

Allowed: July 29, 2005

Appln. No.: 10/035,137

Group Art Unit: 1752

Confirmation No.: 3139

Examiner: John Chu

Filed: January 04, 2002

For: POSITIVE PHOTORESIST COMPOSITION

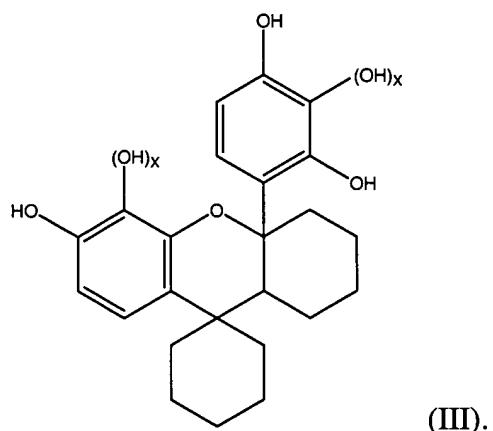
COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

With respect to the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance set forth at pages 2-4 of the Notice of Allowability attached to the Notice of Allowance dated July 29, 2005, Applicants note that formula (III) shown on page 3 is incorrect. As set forth in the Rule 312 Amendment filed June 2, 2004, which the PTO communication dated September 27, 2004 indicated as being entered as directed to matters of form not affecting the scope of the invention, Formula (III) should be as follows:

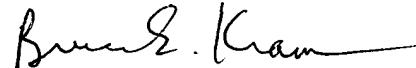


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That is, the formula has been amended to correct an inadvertent error in which the bond fusing the left and center rings in Formula (III) and the specific compounds thereof was shown as a single bond rather than a double bond (a double bond would make the left ring an aromatic ring). In support of this change, Applicants again note that page 7 of the present application discloses that one type of the compounds represented by Formula (III) is disclosed as a sensitizer in Japanese Patent No. 2629990. As discussed in the translation of the Office Action in the corresponding Japanese application (a copy of that Office Action was attached to the Information Disclosure Statement submitted concurrently with the Rule 312 Amendment), the left side fused ring of the compound described in Japanese Patent No. 2629990 is an aromatic ring. Accordingly, Applicants have corrected the compounds shown in the present application. In this regard, Applicants note that the formula was corrected in claims 1, 4, and 5, as well as elsewhere in the application, as set forth in the Rule 312 Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,



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